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John Fitch Kinney

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of the Iowa Pioneer Law Makers Association, and was always in attendance upon its biennial meetings. He took a deep interest in the State historical department, and gave it words of the heartiest approval and encouragement from the first. Says Congressman Walter I. Smith, "He was an ideal lawyer, a conscientious citizen, and a man of unusually clean life and character."

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The venerable and revered Father Philip Laurent was born near Dijon, France, Feb. 23, 1828; he died at his old home across the sea, Dec. 3, 1902. Father Laurent was educated for the Catholic priesthood in his native place, in the old city of Autun, at Plombières, at Troyes and at Paris. He became acquainted with Matthias Loras the first Bishop of Dubuque, whose cordial and repeated invitations to come to the new State of Iowa the young student accepted. He was ordained in Dubuque in 1851, and sent to Muscatine where he took charge of the old St. Matthias congregation. It was with this people mainly that he spent his days, though he taught awhile in the Catholic Seminary a few miles west of Dubuque, and performed missionary work in several other localities in Iowa. He was with his congregation fifty years, during which time "he erected a beautiful church edifice, school houses, and homes for pastor and sisters." These are his monuments. Father Laurent was equally beloved and respected by Catholics and Protestants, and educators and professional people were his warm friends. Seldom, if ever, has the press of Muscatine paid such high tributes to one called hence. After a life of the highest usefulness in a foreign land, the good priest while visiting at his old home was called to his final rest. It was understood that he desired to return and end his days at Muscatine. As one of the earliest and foremost of the missionary priests who came to this region, he will occupy a prominent place in the history of the Catholic Church of Iowa.

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JOHN FITCH KINNEY was born in New Haven, N. Y., April 2, 1816; he died at San Diego, California, Aug. 16, 1902. After receiving his school and college education he studied law, settling at Marysville, Ohio, where he was admitted to the bar in 1837. He practiced his profession at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, from 1839 to 1844, when he removed to Lee county, Iowa. He became secretary of the council of the seventh and eighth territorial legislatures, and also district attorney. On the admission of the State he was appointed associate judge of the supreme court dating from June 12, 1847, and reappointed Jan. 26, 1848. On the 8th of the following December he was elected to the same position by the general assembly for six years. In 1853 President Pierce appointed him chief justice of the supreme court of Utah. After serving until 1857 he removed to Nebraska, where he practiced law until 1860, when President Buchanan reappointed him chief justice of Utah, in which place he served until 1863, when he was elected delegate from that territory to the thirty-eighth congress without opposition. He served until 1865, and then removed to San Diego, Cal., where he spent the remainder of his days, though he held some appointments under the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. While in Iowa he earned proud distinction as an independent, learned and able jurist.

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TYLER P. WALDEN was born in Adams county, Ohio, June 13, 1846; he died in Allerton, Wayne county, Iowa, Sept. 16, 1902. He came to Lee county, Iowa, when a child, with his family. In the sixties he removed to Wayne county, where he afterwards lived. He served as deputy county auditor for several years. In 1874 he organized and became cashier of the first bank ever established in Allerton. He was elected a member of the 29th general assembly, and was recognized as a useful member of that body.

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